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A guide to Thanksgiving travel after the government shutdown

By RIO YAMAT AP Airlines and Travel Writer

The turbulence caused by the longest government shutdown on record may still be fresh on the minds of travelers this Thanksgiving, but experts say preparing for the usual holiday crush of winter weather, heavy traffic and crowded airports can help ease the jitters.

Here's a guide to navigating the busiest travel week of the year:

How busy could it be?

Travel forecasts point to packed airports and roads.

A week after lifting the unprecedented flight restrictions it placed on commercial airlines during the shutdown, the Federal Aviation Administration is preparing for its busi-



Travelers stand in line at a ticketing gate at the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, at DFW Airport, Texas, Friday, Nov. 21, 2025.

(AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez)

day warned of flooding rain and the possibility of severe thunderstorms from Texas to Arkansas and Louisiana into Mississippi that could cause problems for airports in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and Houston.

By midmorning, over 500 flights into and out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport were delayed and nearly 100 canceled, while at Love Field over 90 flights were delayed and nearly 70 canceled, according to the flight-tracking website FlightAware.

On Tuesday, the FAA's busiest day with more than 52,000 flights scheduled, forecasters say more rain was expected in the Pacific Northwest and in much of the eastern U.S. Airports in Atlanta, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Seattle and Washington, D.C. could be impacted, according to the Weather Channel.

Road trip ready

Whether driving is your top choice or backup plan, AAA spokesperson Aixa Diaz suggests checking your tires, car battery and fluids, then hitting the road with a full tank of gas as early as possible to avoid traffic. Last year, AAA said, it responded to nearly 600,000 emergency roadside assistance calls during the Thanksgiving travel period to help drivers stranded by dead batteries, flat tires and empty tanks. According to an analysis by Google Maps:

- Traffic on Wednesday is expected to be 14% heavier than usual between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., with peak traffic from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- On Thanksgiving Day, the roads will be busiest between noon and 3 p.m.
- When it's time to head home, avoid driving from 12 to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, when traffic is heaviest.

The best passenger

... is an informed passenger. Download your airline's app to track your flight status, and check it regularly as your travel date approaches. That way, if your flight is canceled the day before, you can quickly look for alternatives. □

est Thanksgiving week in 15 years, with more than 360,000 flights scheduled between Monday and next Tuesday. That's more than 17.8 million people who will be screened by the Transportation Security Administration.

AAA projects 1.3 million more travelers will be on the roads than last year, pushing the total number of people traveling by car to at least 73 million.

Winter weather

You can't control the weather, but you can control how prepared you are if a storm hits. If your flight is canceled or delayed, will you drive instead or postpone or cancel your trip? Knowing your options ahead of time can reduce stress if a storm leaves you stranded.

James Belanger, vice president of meteorology at the Weather Company, recommends checking the forecast frequently while planning your trip.

The Weather Channel offers a Thanksgiving weekly forecast highlighting major airports and highways that could be affected by bad weather including snow, ice and rain along with a free online tool in the Weather Channel app that shows how weather might impact your travel route. Forecasters on Mon-

Justice Department renews bid to unseal Jeffrey Epstein grand jury materials

By **MICHAEL R. SISAK and LARRY NEUMEISTER** Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The Justice Department renewed its request Monday to unseal Jeffrey Epstein sex trafficking grand jury materials, saying Congress made

clear in approving the release of investigative materials related to the prosecution of the late financier that documents such as the court records should be released.

U.S. Attorney Jay Clayton signed the submission in Manhattan federal court asking that the judge issue an expedited ruling allowing the materials to be released now that President Donald Trump signed the action requiring the release of documents related to Epstein within 30 days. The Justice Department said the Congressional action overrode existing law in a way that permits the unsealing of the grand jury records.

Judge Richard Berman previously denied a Trump administration request to make the Epstein grand

jury transcripts public. Berman, who presided over Epstein's 2019 case, ruled in August that a "significant and compelling reason" to deny the request and keep the transcripts sealed was that information contained in the transcripts "pales in comparison" to investigative information and materials already in the Justice Department's possession. Berman wrote that the government's 100,000 pages of Epstein files and materials "dwarf the 70 odd pages of Epstein grand jury materials" and that the grand jury testimony "is merely a hearsay snippet of Jeffrey Epstein's alleged conduct." Two other judges have also denied the public release of material from investigations into Epstein's decades-long sexual abuse of young women and girls. □



In this July 30, 2008, file photo, Jeffrey Epstein, center, appears in court in West Palm Beach, Fla. (Uma Sanghvi/The Palm Beach Post via AP, File)

Pentagon says it's investigating Sen. Mark Kelly over video urging troops to defy 'illegal orders'

By **KONSTANTIN TOROPIN** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon announced Monday it is investigating Democratic Sen. Mark Kelly of Arizona over possible breaches of military law after the former Navy pilot joined a handful of other lawmakers in a video that called for troops to defy "illegal orders."

The Pentagon's statement, posted on social media, cited a federal law that allows retired service members to be recalled to active duty on orders of the defense secretary for possible court martial or other measures. It is extraordinary for the Pentagon, which until President Donald Trump's second term had usually gone out of its way to act and appear apolitical, to directly threaten a sitting member of Congress with investigation. It comes after Trump ramped up the rhetoric by accusing the lawmakers of sedition "punishable by DEATH" in a social media post days after the video was released last

week.

In its statement Monday, the Pentagon suggested that Kelly's statements in the video interfered with the "loyalty, morale, or good order and discipline of the armed forces" by citing the federal law that prohibits such actions.

"A thorough review of these allegations has been initiated to determine further actions, which may include recall to active duty for court-martial proceedings or administrative measures," the statement said. Kelly said he upheld his oath to the Constitution and dismissed the Pentagon investigation as the work of "bullies."

"If this is meant to intimidate me and other members of Congress from doing our jobs and holding this administration accountable, it won't work," Kelly said in a statement.

In the video, Kelly was one of six Democratic lawmakers who have served in the military or intelligence community to speak "directly to members of the military."

The other lawmakers are Sen. Elissa Slotkin and Reps. Jason Crow, Chris Deluzio, Maggie Goodlander and Chrissy Houlahan, who are seen as possible future aspirants for higher office and elevated their political profiles with the video's wide exposure.

Kelly, who was a fighter pilot before becoming an astronaut and then retiring at the rank of captain, told troops that "you can refuse illegal orders," while other lawmakers in the video said they needed troops to "stand up for our laws ... our Constitution."

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said Kelly was facing investigation because he is the only one of the lawmakers who formally retired from the military and is still under the Pentagon's jurisdiction.

"Kelly's conduct brings discredit upon the armed forces and will be addressed appropriately," Hegseth said on his personal X account. Of the wider group, he added that "their foolish screed sows doubt



Sen. Mark Kelly, D-Ariz., speaks during the Senate Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing for Pete Hegseth, President-elect Donald Trump's choice to be Defense secretary, at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025. (AP Photo/Ben Curtis, file)

and confusion which only puts our warriors in danger." Other Senate Democrats came to Kelly's defense, with Democratic leader Chuck Schumer accusing Trump of using the Pentagon "as his personal attack dog" and saying "this is what dictators do."

His fellow Democratic Arizona senator, Ruben Gallego, said "Mark told the truth in America, we swear an oath to the Constitution,

not wannabe kings." Kelly and the other lawmakers didn't mention specific circumstances in the video, but its release comes as the Trump administration has ordered the military to blow up small boats in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean accused of ferrying drugs and continues its attempts at deploying National Guard troops into U.S. cities despite some legal setbacks. □

BBC leaders grilled by lawmakers over its standards after Trump threatened to sue

By SYLVIA HUI Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The BBC's chairman acknowledged Monday that it was too slow in responding over a misleading edit of a speech by U.S. President Donald Trump but rejected claims that the broadcaster's impartiality was being undermined from within its own board.

Senior BBC leaders were quizzed by Parliament's Culture, Media and Sport Committee amid a major crisis at the publicly funded corporation after its director general and head of news both quit earlier this month and Trump threatened to file a billion-dollar lawsuit.

Chairman Samir Shah said the broadcaster should not have waited days before responding to allegations of biased reporting over a documentary on Trump it aired days before the 2024 U.S. presidential election. The third-party production company that made the film titled "Trump: A Second Chance?" spliced together three quotes from a speech Trump gave on



Pedestrians are reflected as they walk outside BBC Broadcasting House in London, Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025.

(AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth, file)

Jan. 6, 2021, into what appeared to be one quote in which Trump urged supporters to march with him and "fight like hell." The editing made it look like Trump was directly encouraging his supporters to storm the U.S. Capitol as Congress was poised to certify President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the 2020 election. Shah has

acknowledged that the documentary gave "the impression of a direct call for violent action." "I think there's an issue about how quickly we respond. ... We should have pursued it to the end and got to the bottom of it, and not wait as we did till it became public discourse," he told lawmakers Monday. The BBC said last week that

Shah sent a letter to the White House saying that he and the corporation were sorry for the edit of the speech. But the broadcaster said it had not defamed Trump and rejected the basis for his lawsuit threat. On Monday, Shah also defended board member Robbie Gibb, a nonexecutive director of the BBC's board who has been the

subject of wide scrutiny because he was the director of communications for former Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative government.

Critics have accused Gibb of pro-Conservative Party bias and political interference at the BBC.

"I think I've become weaponized in terms of how I'm perceived," Gibb said.

He rejected claims that a coup from within the BBC board forced the resignations of senior news leaders as "complete nonsense."

Last week Shumeet Banerji, a BBC board member, also said he was stepping down over "governance issues," sparking further questions about the corporation's leadership.

Asked whether his own position was in doubt, Shah said his priority was to "steer the ship" and find a new director general.

Earlier, lawmakers at the parliamentary session focused on questions about editorial standards raised by Michael Prescott, a former journalist and external editorial standards adviser to the BBC. □

Daughter of ex-South African leader Zuma is accused of luring men to fight in Russia-Ukraine war

By MOGOMOTSI MAGOME Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — South African police say they are investigating allegations that former President Jacob Zuma's daughter Duduzile Zuma-Sambudla lured 17 men who are now trapped in Russia into fighting in that country's war with Ukraine without their consent.

According to police spokesperson Athlenda Mathe, an affidavit filed by Zuma-Sambudla's sister Nkosazana Bonganini Zuma-Mncube alleges that Zuma-Sambudla and two other people lured the men by claiming they would receive security training in Russia. Details about the two others were not immediately clear.

The affidavit alleges they

were handed over to a Russian mercenary group and forced to fight in the war. It also says eight of the 17 men were members of the sisters' family.

Mathe said Sunday that any police charges "are still to be determined through a thorough investigation."

South Africa's foreign minister, Ronald Lamola, told reporters on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Johannesburg over the weekend that diplomatic efforts were underway with Russia and Ukraine to repatriate the men.

"The police must investigate

and whoever is involved in this must be arrested," Lamola said, adding: "It is not an easy situation because they are in the front lines of this battle, but we are hopeful that there will be breakthroughs."

South Africa's government earlier this month said it had received distress calls from the men, aged 20 to 39, who said they were trapped in Ukraine's war-torn eastern Donbas region. The men had joined mercenary forces under the pretext of lucrative employment contracts, the government said.

Russia has been accused of recruiting men from other countries to fight in the war under the pretext of offering them jobs. It has also been accused of tricking women from South Africa

and other African countries into working in Russian drone factories through social media campaigns promising them jobs in fields like catering and hospitality.

Under South African law, it is illegal for citizens and entities to offer or provide military assistance to foreign governments or participate in armies of foreign governments unless authorized by South Africa's government. Zuma-Sambudla is a member of parliament for the MK Party, which her father founded in 2023 after he was expelled from the ruling African National Congress, which he led from 2007 to 2017.

She is currently on trial for unrelated charges around the deadly riots in South Africa in 2021. □



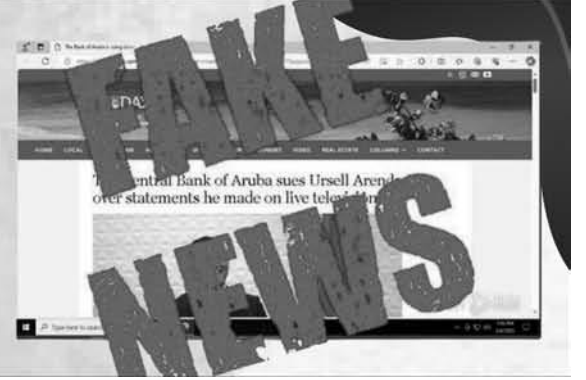
Duduzile Zuma-Sambudla, daughter of former South African president Jacob Zuma, left, shares a light moment outside High Court during her trial for terrorism linked to the July 2021 riots in Durban, South Africa, Monday, Nov. 10, 2025.

(AP Photo)

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Top US military adviser visits Caribbean as Trump ramps up pressure on Venezuela

The nation's top military officer is visiting American troops Monday in Puerto Rico and on a Navy warship in the region, where the U.S. has amassed an unusually large fleet of warships and has been attacking alleged drug-smuggling boats.

Gen. Dan Caine, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and President Donald Trump's primary military adviser, will be joined by David L. Isom, the senior enlisted adviser to Caine. Caine's office said in a statement that the men will "engage with service members and thank them for their outstanding support to regional missions."

This will be Caine's second visit to the region since the U.S. military started building up its presence, which now includes the nation's most advanced aircraft carrier. Caine and Defense Secre-



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Dan Caine testifies before Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, June 18, 2025.

(AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana, File)

tary Pete Hegseth came to Puerto Rico in September after ships carrying hundreds of U.S. Marines ar-

rived for what officials said was a training exercise. Hegseth said then that the deployed Marines were "on

the front lines of defending the American homeland." Caine's visit this week comes as Trump evaluates

whether to take military action against Venezuela, which he has not ruled out as part of his administration's escalating campaign to combat drug trafficking into the U.S. The buildup of American warships and the strikes, which have killed more than 80 people on 21 alleged drug boats, are seen by many as a pressure tactic on Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro to resign.

The Trump administration also is ramping up pressure by designating the Cartel de los Soles, or Cartel of the Suns, as a foreign terrorist organization, although the entity that the U.S. government alleges is led by Maduro is not a cartel per se. Until this year, the label of foreign terrorist organization had been reserved for groups like the Islamic State or al-Qaida that use violence for political ends. □

Body of Guatemalan woman killed when she went to clean the wrong Indiana house is returned home

By **SONIA PÉREZ D. Associated Press**

CABRICAN, Guatemala (AP) — The body of a Guatemalan woman who was killed earlier this month when she went to clean the wrong home in Indiana in the United States was returned to her native country on Sunday.

María Florinda Ríos Pérez, 32, a mother of four, was killed on the front porch of a home in Whitestown, outside Indianapolis, on Nov. 5.

Late Sunday, her mother Vilma Pérez and other relatives received her body at the capital's international airport and planned to transport it to her home-

town of Cabrican, some 125 miles (200 kilometers) west of Guatemala City. Prosecutors charged Curt Andersen of Whitestown last week with voluntary manslaughter in connection with her death. Andersen's trial was scheduled to begin March 30, according to online court records. On Friday, a judge set bail at \$25,000 and ordered him to surrender his passport. According to court documents, Ríos and her husband were part of a house cleaning crew and went to Andersen's house by mistake. As they tried to unlock Andersen's door with a key their company had given them, Andersen fired

a shot through the door without warning. The bullet hit Ríos in the head. Her husband was not hurt. Andersen told investigators he heard someone trying to unlock his front door and thought someone was trying to break into his home. Over the weekend, women in Cabrican cooked food in preparation for friends and relatives who would attend the wake and burial. At her parents' home, flowers and pictures of Ríos adorned an altar. Cabrican sits in a valley where most residents are Mam, an Indigenous Mayan people. Ríos' sister, 19-year-old Yeimy Paola Ríos Pérez,

said María had left Guatemala two years earlier with two of her daughters, hiring a smuggler to get them to

the U.S. because they were told adults with children were being allowed to enter, her sister said. □



Relatives cry after receiving the remains of María Florinda Ríos Perez who was killed in Indiana, at La Aurora International Airport in Guatemala City, Sunday, Nov. 23, 2025.

(AP Photo/Moises Castillo)

Poland's foreign minister summons Israeli ambassador over Yad Vashem post

WARSAW, Poland (AP) —

Poland's foreign minister said Monday that he was summoning the Israeli ambassador over a post by Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial institution. Yad Vashem wrote on X on Sunday that "Poland was the first country where Jews were forced to wear a distinctive yellow badge in order to isolate them from the surrounding population."

Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski appealed to Yad Vashem to "post afresh" and make a reference to "German-occupied" Poland. Polish officials have been for years objecting to language that might falsely attribute crimes of Nazi Germany to Poland.

The previous nationalist conservative government even came close to imposing a prison sentence on those suggesting that the Polish nation was complicit



Poland's Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski speaks during press conference with Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha in Kyiv, Ukraine, Friday, Sept. 12, 2025.

(AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka, file)

in Nazi crimes.

In its post published on Sunday, Yad Vashem de-

scribed how, on Nov. 23, 1939, "Hans Frank, the governor of the Generalgou-

vernment issued an order that all Jews aged 10 and above must wear a white

cloth armband 10 cm wide marked with a blue Star of David on their right arm."

Nazi Germany-occupied Poland in September 1939, a date which constitutes the start of World War II. Six million Jews and others were killed in the ensuing Holocaust, many in Nazi death camps located on occupied Polish territory. Beyond Sikorski, others in Poland criticized the language used by Yah Vashem, including Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

Yad Vashem responded to the criticism on social media but only to specify: "As noted by many users and specified explicitly in the linked article, it was done by order of the German authorities." On Monday, Sikorski announced that he was summoning the Israeli ambassador "since the misleading post has not been amended." □

Things to know about the growing pressures facing Zelenskyy during a crucial week of diplomacy



In this photo provided by the Ukrainian Presidential Press Office, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy attends a news conference in Kyiv, Ukraine, Friday, Oct. 31, 2025. (Ukrainian Presidential Press Office via AP)

By ISOBEL KOSHIW Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy faces a crucial week of diplomacy, testing his abilities to stand his ground while demonstrating to the United States that he is willing to compromise.

Since a draft of a 28-point U.S.-Russia brokered peace plan was leaked to the press on Thursday,

Ukraine and its European allies have been trying to buy time and ensure their interests are represented in any deal.

The draft has triggered alarm in Kyiv and European capitals for favoring Russian demands and goals. It calls for limiting the size of Ukraine's army as well as handing over Ukrainian territory that Russia has occupied while asking Kyiv to relinquish any hope of

holding Russia accountable for its invasion or seeking justice in the thousands of war crimes allegations leveled at Moscow.

The dial appeared to swing back somewhat more favorably for Kyiv after U.S. and Ukrainian delegations met in Geneva on Sunday. Both sides said discussions were "productive" and would continue. Zelenskyy said he felt Trump was "hearing" Ukraine in a statement late Sunday after the Geneva talks ended.

All this is playing out as Zelenskyy tries to stem public anger from a major corruption scandal and Russia makes slow but steady advances across parts of the 1,000-kilometer (620-mile) front line and relentlessly bombs Ukraine's power plants, causing severe electricity shortages as colder weather sets in. Here are some things to know about the growing pressures confronting Zelenskyy.

Ukraine and Europe push

back

After the plan was leaked, U.S. President Donald Trump set a hard deadline for Kyiv to sign on to it before Thanksgiving, jolting Ukraine and Europe.

Ukraine and European leaders made a series of statements, stressing how grateful they are to Trump for his efforts to end the war while stating the need to ensure Kyiv has input into any deal.

In a joint statement on Friday, European leaders said they welcomed the plan, saying it contained "important elements" and could be used as "a basis that will require additional work." The U.S. and Ukraine dispatched delegations to Geneva with the aim of hashing out an agreement on Sunday.

Speaking after the Geneva talks, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio appeared to roll back on the hard deadline, saying that "more time is needed."

The U.S. and Ukraine said

the talks were "productive" but neither side shared details of the issues still unresolved.

"It is important that European partners support our positions and our people," Zelenskyy said on Monday, emphasizing his reliance on European support in the face of U.S. pressure and at times open hostility from Trump, who claimed Sunday that Zelenskyy showed "zero gratitude" for U.S. support.

Peace talks distract from Zelenskyy's domestic woes

Zelenskyy sent his beleaguered presidential chief of staff, Andrii Yermak, to Geneva for talks with Rubio on Sunday, glossing over intense pressure to fire him. Zelenskyy faced an unprecedented rebellion from his own lawmakers last week after investigators revealed a \$100 million corruption scandal involving top Ukrainian officials. □

Surf's Up: Favorite places to catch waves in Aruba



ORANJESTAD – Whether you are a salt-seasoned surfer looking for a thrill, or just looking to wet your toes in a little ocean adventure, Aruba has amazing places to learn and practice surfing! Although more known for the calmer waters of Palm Beach, Eagle Beach and Mangel Halto, Aruba also has some special places to thrill your senses. Because of strong winds and breezes, Aruba is perfect for wind and kite surfing. You will surely notice kites in the air as you drive around the wilder, rougher areas on Aruba's east side.

There are plenty of surf shop rentals to help you with your gear, and there are also a lot of tutors if you're looking to try for the first time and need a little help. These can be found around the island, and will surely come in hand if you want to try a new experience!

With that said, here are Aruba's favorite surf spots!

Andicuri

Andicuri is recognized as the best place for body boarding. Because of the rough waves, this beach is better suited for those with more experience in surfing.

However, the beach with two bluffs – one on each side – is worth a visit, if only to watch the exciting show presented by the surfers.

To go to Andicuri, you will need a 4x4 vehicle and drive from the ex-Natural Bridge Center. Alternatively, you can make it an adventure by going on a hike! The scenery is unique and beautiful on its own.

Reaching Andicuri Beach can be an adventure in itself, as it can be difficult to find and is only accessible by 4x4 vehicle or walking from the ex-Natural Bridge center, but the impressive scenery makes it all worthwhile!

Arashi

Arashi, a beach located close to the California Lighthouse, is a good spot for learning and having fun – if you're lucky! The waves at Arashi are usually calm, but with just the right weather, a swell forms attracting all the local surfers to the area.

Boca Grandi

Boca Grandi is at the most southern spot in Aruba, and is a popular spot with experienced surfers. Close to the famous Red Anchor

and our beloved Sunrise City – San Nicolas, a trip to Boca Grandi can easily turn into an all-day trip to this area of the island. With a beautiful beach (although it is not allowed to swim here, because of strong currents), you can enjoy a relaxing time combing the beach for driftwood, coral, and little crabs and snails.

Hadicurari

Here is where you will find most of the action for surfers in Aruba. With a variety of surf shops and schools in this area, you will find it easy to get in on the action. Hadicurari is also the site of the Aruba Hi Winds World Challenge, which takes place usually in June/July, and it is the largest wind-surfing competition in the Caribbean!

Malmok

If you're a beginner, this is your spot. There are also various shops to rent gear and receive lessons, facilitating learning and just trying out a new experience. The beach is also popular for paddleboarding and other watersport activities. □



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Po-Ké Ono Brings Bold Asian Fusion to Aruba's Dining Scene

Innovative eatery blends island culture with modern Asian cuisine



In a culinary landscape known for its diversity and creativity, Po-Ké Ono stands out as a vibrant and contemporary addition to Aruba's restaurant scene. With locations at Azure in Palm Beach and the Renaissance Marketplace in Oranjestad, the concept introduces a refreshing take on Asian fusion dining—casual in style, yet refined in execution.

Established in 2020, Po-Ké Ono was envisioned as a space where flavor, culture, and creativity intersect. The menu features an array of signature dishes including poke bowls, steamed bao, and sushi, crafted with precision and a focus on freshness. Drawing on Asian influences, the restaurant delivers bold flavors in an approachable format, appealing to a broad audience of locals and visitors alike.

The ambiance is designed to be welcoming and relaxed, with a philosophy centered

around accessibility and enjoyment. Whether dining indoors or grabbing a quick bowl on the go, guests can expect a consistently high standard in both service and cuisine. With extensive menu options, including selections for vegan diners, Po-Ké Ono caters to a wide range of tastes and dietary preferences.

While the concept leans into fast-casual dining, the quality of ingredients and thoughtful



preparation reflect fine-dining roots. Many of the restaurant's core ingredients are sourced locally, emphasizing sustainability and support for Aruba's agricultural community. The result is a dining experience that honors both the island's spirit and the culinary traditions it draws inspiration from.

Open daily from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Po-Ké Ono continues to gain recognition as one of the island's premier destinations for sushi, poke, and

bao. Its growing popularity is a testament to Aruba's evolving food culture—one that embraces global influence while staying rooted in community and craft.

For those seeking a modern taste of Asia in the heart of the Caribbean, Po-Ké Ono offers a flavorful and memorable experience worth exploring. □



Enjoy one of the best views on Aruba at the top of the Hooiberg Hill



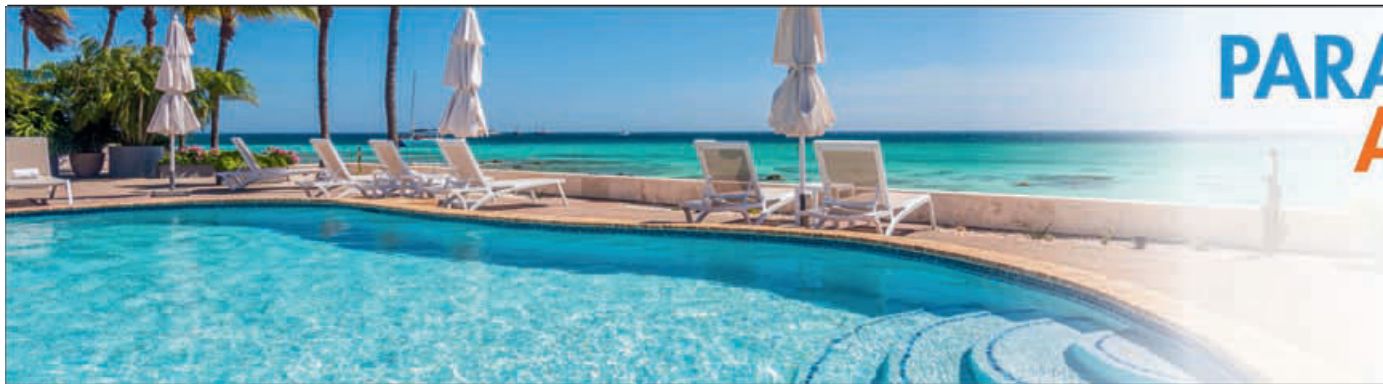
(Oranjestad)—If you are a regular hiker, or maybe want to spice up your morning work out session, then you might enjoy one of the most popular climbing sites on the island: The Hooiberg Hill. Accompanied with a 600-step staircase, this hill overlooks a great part of the island, the Caribbean sea, and sometimes even the Santa Anna mountain located in the coastal state of Falcon in Venezuela, providing one of the best views you can get on Aruba.

located at the center district of the island, Santa Cruz, the Hooiberg Hill is the second highest point on the island at 165 meters above sea level (or about 540 feet above sea level). The highest point is Jamanota Hill at 189 meters (620 feet), located in the

Arikok National Park.

The staircase that run on the side of the hill was first built in 1951, when Mr. Eduardo Tromp constructed it. At that time, the staircase consisted of 900 steps. Over time, as the steps faced erosion, the government decided to renovate these stairs in 1991. This new project delivered the newer staircase with only 587 steps. However, don't be fooled—it may still be a work out to get on top. In addition, there is now a gazebo placed halfway up the stair for a little rest. The view at this resting stop is also a sight to see.

The best time to climb the hill would be early in the morning or right before sunset, as it may not be as hot. However, the hill is of course open all day, every day. □



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for both guests and homeowners alike. While travelers benefit from handpicked accommodations and personalized service, homeowners gain a reliable partner dedicated to the care and performance of their property.

A Stay Tailored to You

Casago Aruba offers more than just stylish villas. Their curated portfolio includes a **wide variety of condos, homes, and villas** in different sizes to suit all types of travelers—from solo adventurers and couples to large families and groups. Every stay is backed by local expertise, with concierge support, 24/7 guest assistance, and an attention to detail that consistently exceeds expectations.

Whether you're here to relax on world-famous beaches, explore Aruba's cultural gems, or discover hidden corners of the island, Casago Aruba ensures your getaway is as smooth as it is memorable.

A Partner for Homeowners

Behind the scenes, Casago offers a robust suite of property management services designed to help homeowners



maximize rental income while minimizing stress. Services include:

- **Promotion** through Casago's professional booking platform and expert local marketing strategies
- **Complete management** of check-ins, guest communication, cleanings, landscaping, pool maintenance, and repairs
- **Transparent maintenance** reporting, real-time reservation tracking, and on-site security monitoring
- **Full handling** of tax filings for both local and state requirements
- **Monthly property inspections** and full utility bill management
- **Strategic planning** to help homeowners increase profitability and keep their properties in top condition

This full-service model ensures that every home is maintained to the highest standard while giving property owners full peace of mind.

Rooted in Community and Sustainability

What truly sets Casago Aruba apart is their commitment to the local community and to sustainable practices. The team works closely with local businesses and artisans, promotes eco-conscious travel, and supports initiatives that contribute positively to the island's environment and economy.

As one of the fastest-growing vacation rental and property management companies on the island, Casago Aruba continues to expand its footprint—welcoming more travelers, partnering with more homeowners, and raising the standard of hospitality in Aruba. □

“Aruba to me is food and fun”



ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of

its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Rick Ross.

He wrote to us saying: “Aruba to me food and fun with my best friend.”

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □

5th Annual Silent Auction and Food Extravaganza! Sponsored by the Aruba Methodist Circuit



MEALS ON WHEELS FUNDRAISER

"Your support drives meals to those in need"

Auction Items Saturday **Auction Items**
Giftcertificates: November 29, 2025 **Giftcertificates:**
 -Restaurants -Nail Salon
 -Gyms -Spas
 -Clothing -Sunset Cruise
 -Stores -Go Kart

4:30-8:30 pm
Club Caiquetio, Paradera

Food Sale, Silent Auction, Music, Kids Corner, Entertainment and more!!!
Hosted by the Methodist Aruba Circuit

Meals on Wheels is having its annual silent auction and food extravaganza for everyone to enjoy!

Raising money for Meals on Wheels Celebrating 57 years, Sat., Nov. 29 4:30-8:30PM Club Caiquetio, Paradera

Food for Sale

- West Deck - Beef Vegetable Soup, 16 oz. With pan bati-15 AWG., 2 fish cakes with tarra-gon sauce - 12 AWG.;
- From O'Niels Caribbean Kitchen-Fish platter with 2 fish slices (moocha) with rice, salad and plantain - 22 AWG.;
- From Casa Tua - Ham & Cheese Pizzas 7 AWG per slice;
- From Renaissance, Pastechi - 4 AWG, Croquettes - 3.50 AWG.;
- From Dominoes Pizza - Cheese pizza slice - 6 AWG, pepperoni pizza slice - 7 AWG. and
- From Delimar Peruvian Restaurant - Chaufa Chicken fried rice in 8x8 container - 16 AWG.
- Santos - blueberry and banana muffins- 5 AWG.

Other desserts available at 5 AWG.- chocolate cake, cherry cake, pineapple upside down cupcakes, butter cookies to name a few items. Drinks will be soft drinks and Maube and Sorrell 5 AWG.

Silent Auction

This year we will have even more gift ideas to help you with your Christmas shopping. Brand new clothing and shoes from some of the local clothing stores. Pottery, blown glass, restaurant gift certi-

cates, hairdresser, nails, chiropractor, eye glasses, dinner cruise, jewelry, hand creams, maple products from Maine and honey. Pet spa, pet items, recreational activities including work out gym, go carts, trampoline fun, autographed sports items, playground for kids, hot sauces, coffee, home goods and many more items.

Entertainment

Lady DJ, Nico Connor, Gaita Mensahe di Algeria Family Band, Young@Heart Line Dancers and Bouncy Castle, along with other games for children ages 0-4 donated by Trendy Kids. There will be door prizes! □

Explore Aruba!

(ORANJESTAD)—Aruba Today collected some things to do **BEYOND the beach**. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Arikok National Park

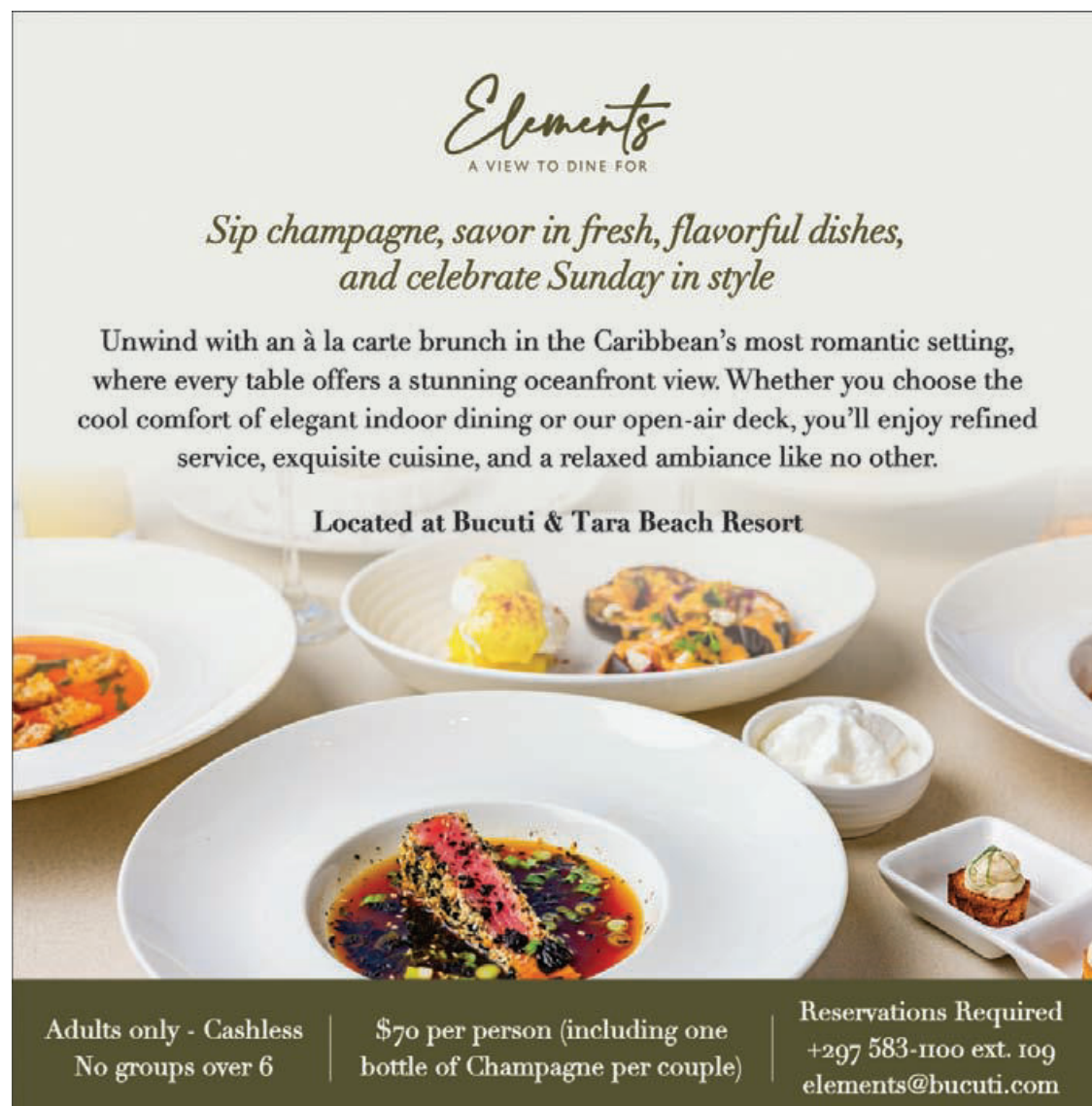
The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In total, the park consists of 34 square kilometers of protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website www.acf.aw

Natural Bridge

One of Aruba's favorite tourist attractions is the Natural Bridge. For thousands of years, pounding waves and strong winds have slowly chiseled away the limestone cliffs along Aruba's north coast to create several natural bridges. The largest of these bridges used to be the famous Natural Bridge. The bridge was a formation of coral limestone cut out by years of pounding surf, and was one of the largest of these types of spans in the world. It stood some 23 feet (7 meters) above sea level and spans more than 100 feet (30 meters). Unfortunately the bridge collapsed on September 2, 2005. Despite this, it is still the most photographed natural bridge and it remains a popular tourist attraction in Aruba, with the adjacent and intact Baby Bridge also meriting a visit. The Natural Bridge is the perfect stop while touring Aruba. There is no admission fee or set hours for visiting. Quench your thirst with refreshing beverages & refuel your tank with local snacks.

The Lourdes Grotto

Named in commemoration of the famous French religious landmark, was created under the guidance of a priest named "Erkamp" and parishioners in the year 1958. The grotto, a shrine built into the rocks is located in Serroe Preto, just off the main road to San Nicolas. A statue of the Virgin Mary, weighing 700 kilos, was hoisted into place in the grotto. Every year, on February 11 (feast of Lady of Lourdes), a procession leaves from the St. Theresa church in San Nicolas to the grotto, where a mass is performed. The grotto is located road-side and can be visited daily. Just make sure you park safely in the event you wish to stop for pictures at this location. □



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Meet Aruba's biggest hero, Boy Ecury



(Oranjestad)—As part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and due to its strategic geolocation, Aruba was unexpectedly involved in the Second World War. As is known around the globe, this chapter in world history is one of the most tragic yet, and many soldiers and rebels have died on the front line during this time.

One of those rebels who have fought against the Nazi regime, was an Aruban named Segundo Jorge Adelberto "Boy" Ecury. Born in Aruba on April 23rd, 1922, Boy spent his childhood on the island, before being sent to The Nether-

lands by his father when he was 15 years old to continue his studies abroad. This was in 1937, three years before WWII broke out. During the war, he actively participated in the rebellion in The Netherlands against the Nazi regime, but his rebellious streak and constant drive to fight for justice began even before the war broke out. Being a person of color with a Haitian heritage living in The Netherlands made him vulnerable to discrimination, and this inspired him to be an activist, to stand up and fight against discrimination and oppression. After seeing the horrific

bombings of Rotterdam first-hand, he decided to join the resistance. At the same time, he was still studying and living with family in Tilburg. It was there where he met people who printed and distributed the rebellion newspaper. This would be the first of three rebellion group that he would join throughout his 4-year service to the resistance.

Boy's primary task as member of the group was to distract the German soldiers while others ran into hiding into alleyways. This he was able to do because of his skin color and confronting demeanor. Boy also participated in the multiple sabotaging operations against the German military occupying The Netherlands. These included bombings on German military trucks and trains. The group also helped people go into hiding, as well as opened fire against allies of the Nazi regime. In these operations, Boy really stood out for his cold bloodedness.

In 1943, he received a notice to be placed for work in Germany. This he refused, of course, and went into hiding using multiple addresses in multiple cities. Because he was a wanted man, he of course could not continue to be active as a rebel. However, stubborn and naturally rebellious as he was, he always tried to join in on the opera-



tions regardless.

In 1944, after his friend Luis de Lannoy, a fellow rebel from Curacao, was arrested and executed, he moved to Delft, where he joined his third and last group in Rotterdam. During this time, he wrote a goodbye letter for his family, possibly knowing the risks of him being active again in the big cities.

Eventually, he proved himself right. On November 5th, 1944, Boy Ecury was arrested by German soldiers. He was placed in the "Oranjestad" prison in Scheveningen, The Hague, where he was questioned. Despite being sold out by an acquaintance, he himself never gave away the

names of his comrades. Famously, he told his cell mate: "I will die with a smile on my face."

On November 6th, 1944, Ecury was executed. He was only 22 years old. Ecury was buried with military honor. In 1949, the Aruban Government erected a monumental bust of him in front of what is now the linear park trail, and in 1984 he received the Resistance Memorial Cross postmortem.

Boy's life motto was this: "In my father's house, there is no place for a traitor." □

Source: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.

Fun facts about the 'Lisinbein'

The 'Lisinbein' (Scolopendra gigantea), also known as the Giant Centipede, is one of the largest centipedes in the world and is found in Aruba. Its size and hunting prowess make it a fascinating, if often misunderstood, creature.

Despite its fearsome reputation, it plays a crucial ecological role that often goes unnoticed.

As an apex invertebrate predator, Scolopendra gigantea helps maintain balance in the ecosystem. Moreover, they themselves are a food source for birds such as the Crested Caracara (Warawara) and the Aruba burrowing owl (Shoco).

It controls populations of smaller invertebrates and even small vertebrates, ensuring that no species overpopulates, which could disrupt local biodiversity.

Its presence can indicate a healthy, functioning ecosystem. Its sensitivity to environmental changes makes it a bioindicator of ecological balance.

It can reach an impressive length of up to 30 centimeters (approx. 12 inches) and live for around 5 to 10 years in the wild. Its size and longevity makes it a significant and long-term part of the ecosystem.

A mother's love

In Scolopendra species, the 'mother' typically exhibits maternal care by curling around her eggs and

newly hatched young. She stays coiled around the clutch, protecting it from predators and fungi, which are serious risks in the moist environments these centipedes often inhabit. The mother maintains a clean environment for the eggs by carefully grooming them, which helps prevent fungal growth that could endanger the brood. This behavior may continue until the young centipedes have undergone their first molt, making them more capable of independent survival.

This form of parental care is beneficial in increasing the survival rates of offspring, as the mother's protection provides a safe 'environment' during their vulnerable de-

velopmental stages. It's a fascinating adaptation because it shows a form of care that resembles more complex behaviors observed in vertebrates.

No bark, but all bite!

The lisinbein is known locally for having a really painful sting. While venomous, the Lisinbein is generally not aggressive toward humans unless provoked. Its role as a guardian of balance in the ecosystem helps protect the natural beauty of Aruba by keeping the ecosystem in harmony.

Editor's note: Information and pictures provided by Ms. Natasha Silva from the Aruba Conservation Foundation. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 39 Bookish sort
5 Snowy bird
10 Pinnacle colored
11 Vineyard harvest
13 Subsequently
14 Alludes to
15 Brewski
17 Lyricist Gershwin
18 Skilled showoff
19 Illuminated
20 Massive
21 Finished
22 Confectioner's harvest
25 Hair over the forehead
26 Poet Khayyám
27 Cellist's need
28 Work wk. start
29 US/USSR tension
33 Ran into
34 Emergency phone
35 Tolerates
37 Notion
38 Most rational

DOWN

- 1 Gate part
2 Sneeze sound
3 Do refinery work
4 Serves drinks
5 Winter drink
6 Say "hi" to
7 Squealer
8 Letter after delta
9 Ripping
12 Declares
16 Toledo setting
21 Wasting time
22 List separators
23 One-celled creatures
24 Saloon of the Southwest
25 Shackle part
27 Increases
29 Heart's place
30 More broad
31 "... the end of —"
32 Prepared
36 Singer Shannon

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

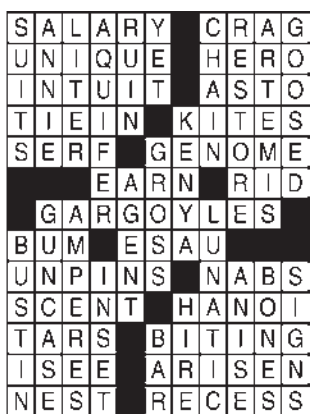
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

EV ORRY UEPR FRDAV, EV

G DATROU URDBG, EV XEVURA

RVNLM. — XEFFEDP WFDHR
Cryptoquote: ANOTHER BELIEF OF
MINE: THAT EVERYONE ELSE MY AGE IS AN
ADULT, WHEREAS I AM MERELY IN DISGUISE.
— MARGARET ATWOOD



Cruise ship Schedule: Nov. 23 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
SUN	23	MSC DIVINA FREEWINDS - Dept.	08.00 ****	18.00 22.30	C E	1 -
TUE	25	WIND SPIRIT CARNIVAL HORIZON	06.00 09.00	15.00 23.00	B C	1 1
WED	26	SERENADE OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	08.00 06.00	23.00 ****	C E	1 1
THU	27	AIDABLU BRILLIANCE OF THE SEAS	08.00 08.00	18.00 ****	B C	 1
FRI	28	SILVER SHADOW BRILLIANCE OF THE SEAS - Dept.	08.00 ****	**** 18.00	B C	1
SAT	29	SILVER SHADOW - Dept. SEVEN SEAS SPLENDOR	**** 14.00	13.00 23.59	B C	 1
SUN	30	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

8				1		3		7
					5		8	
	7			8	6		2	1
		9	7			6		8
6		8	4	9	1	2		
7		1		3	8	5		
2			8	4				
		7	5		9	1	3	2
		5	1		8			

Difficulty: ★★

11/25

Answer to previous puzzle

7	6	1	8	3	2	5	9	4
2	5	8	9	1	4	3	6	7
9	3	4	7	6	5	1	2	8
4	8	7	1	2	9	6	5	3
1	9	5	6	7	3	4	8	2
6	2	3	4	5	8	7	1	9
5	7	9	3	8	6	2	4	1
8	1	6	2	4	7	9	3	5
3	4	2	5	9	1	8	7	6

Difficulty: ★

11/24

Takeoff of China's flying taxis hits turbulence

By KANIS LEUNG Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — An unmanned, oval-shaped craft from flying taxi maker EHang hovers, whirring noisily like a mini-helicopter over a riverside innovation zone on the outskirts of the southern Chinese business hub of Guangzhou, part of a trial of a mini-flying taxi that once might have been found only in sci-fi films.

In nearby Shenzhen, food-delivery drones already are part of daily life and a novelty attraction for tourists, even if such services cost more. In the waterfront park surrounded by high-rises, Polish tourist Karolina Trzciana and her friends ordered bubble tea and lemon tea by phone, just to give it a try. Their drinks arrived via a drone buzzing through the drizzle about 30 minutes later.

"This is the first time I'm seeing something like this, so it was super fun to see the food being delivered by the drone," she said.

Such businesses are growing quickly with support from the government, though the take off of the so-called "low-altitude economy" faces obstacles such as strict airspace controls and battery limitations. Activities in airspace below 1,000 meters (about 3,280 feet) accounted for business turnover worth 506



The EHang eVTOL EH126-S takes to the sky over a port in Guangzhou in southern China's Guangdong province on Monday, Nov. 3, 2025.

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

billion yuan (\$70 billion) in 2023, about 0.4% of China's economy. By 2035, it's expected to hit 3.5 trillion yuan (about \$490 billion), said Zhang Xiaolan, a researcher at the State Information Center, a think tank affiliated with China's main planning agency.

Accidents, battery limitations and airspace controls
The biggest challenge for developing eVTOL aircraft is maintaining longer flights and overcoming battery capacity limitations, said Guo Liming, co-founder of Shenzhen-based Skyevtol, whose single-seat manned eVTOL aircraft, priced at around \$100,000, can only fly 20 to 30 minutes before it must be charged. It also has not all been smooth skies.

In September, two XPENG's eVTOL aircraft collided after a rehearsal for an ex-

hibition and one of them caught fire while landing. The company said no one was hurt, but another expo canceled flying demonstrations a week later. □

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del Pueblo: Tel.582 1253

San Nicolas:

Aloe:Tel.584 4606

OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
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EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

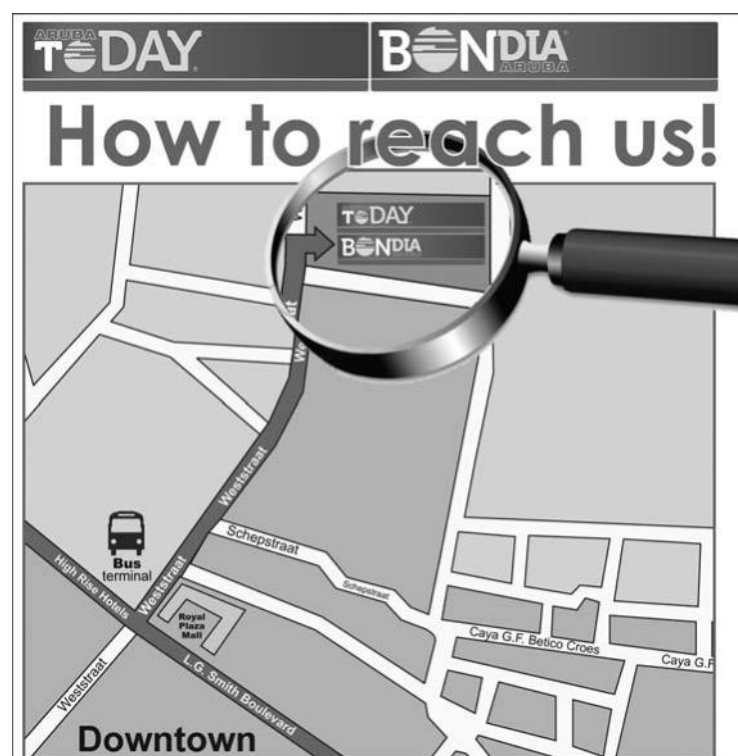
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS



Fan groups call on Premier League clubs to freeze ticket prices



Fans hold a poster of Newcastle's head coach Eddie Howe during a Premier League soccer match between Newcastle United and Manchester City in Newcastle, England, Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025. (AP Photo/Jon Super)

LONDON (AP) — Fan groups have called on Premier League clubs to freeze

home ticket prices for the next two seasons, share pricing data and hold talks with supporters' groups.

More than 100 groups signed a letter, published by the Football Supporters' Association on Monday, that said fan loyalty "shouldn't be maximized for profit."

"Football is for everyone. Rising prices are making it harder for regular fans, especially younger generations and working-class communities, to attend matches," the letter reads. "A halt on ticket increases gives us the chance to make sure football stays inclusive and accessible to all."

Nineteen out of 20 top-flight clubs raised prices for the 2024-25 season and 13 did so this campaign.

Not hiking prices for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 seasons would halt the "arms race," the fan groups argued.

"We know some clubs worry about holding prices if their rivals continue to raise theirs. That's why a Premier League-wide halt is needed. It stops the constant cycle of increases and allows time to find a fairer, more transparent approach that doesn't keep loading the burden onto fans."

The letter noted that the existing 30-pound (\$39) away-ticket cap "was a landmark agreement that proved clubs and supporters can work together to make positive change. It showed that valuing your supporters strengthens the game, and is something that must continue." □

Clark to make USA Basketball national team camp debut joined by other first timers Reese, Bueckers



FILE - Indiana Fever's Caitlin Clark reacts to fans before the WNBA All-Star basketball game, Saturday, July 19, 2025, in Indianapolis.

(AP Photo/Michael Conroy, file)

By DOUG FEINBERG AP Basketball Writer

Caitlin Clark will make her USA Basketball senior national team camp debut when the Americans get together at Duke next month.

The Indiana Fever All-Star, who missed the second half of the WNBA season with a groin injury, had been invited to a few camps while she was in college at Iowa, but the

timing didn't work out. She'll be there alongside first-timers Angel Reese, Paige Bueckers, Cameron Brink, Sonia Citron, Veronica Burton, Kiki Iriafen and Rickea Jackson. College players Lauren Betts of UCLA and JuJu Watkins of Southern California are also invited. Watkins is out for the season while recovering from an ACL injury she suffered in the NCAA Tournament last season.

The newcomers will be joined by Paris Olympic gold medalists Kahleah Copper, Chelsea Gray, Brittney Griner, Kelsey Plum and Jackie Young. Dearica Hamby, who won a bronze medal in 3-on-3 at the 2024 Games, also will participate in the camp. Bri'ona Jones, who helped the U.S. win gold at the 2022 FIBA World Cup, also will be in North Carolina at the camp, as will Aliyah Boston.

Kara Lawson, who was chosen as the U.S. coach by Sue Bird in September, will lead the camp from Dec. 12-14 at Duke.

She'll be joined by WNBA coaches Nate Tibbetts of Phoenix, Stephanie White of Indiana and Natalie Nakase of Golden State. The U.S. will play in Puerto Rico in March for the FIBA Women's World Cup qualifier. The Americans, who have already qualified for the World Cup next year in Germany, are in a pool with Italy, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Senegal and Spain. □



University of Alabama at Birmingham police attend to the scene of a stabbing Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025, at the campus Football Operations Center in Birmingham, Ala.

(Diane Mwai/al.com via AP)

UAB football player accused of stabbing 2 teammates before game

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — A University of Alabama at Birmingham football player stabbed two teammates Saturday morning hours before the team's game against the University of South Florida, the university said in a statement.

The two wounded players were in stable condition, interim head coach Alex Mortensen said at the postgame news conference. He said the team decided to play to honor graduating seniors in the last home game of the season, though several players opted to sit it out due to the incident.

The teammate suspected in the stabbing was in custody, the university said. The school did not release the names of the players involved.

Daniel Mincey, an offensive lineman who transferred to UAB in May, was arrested and booked on charges of aggravated assault and attempted murder in the afternoon, according to Jefferson County Jail records. He was in custody in Birmingham and appeared to be the only UAB player who was arrested Saturday. □

Yankees owner Hal Steinbrenner declines to say he supports salary cap but might support salary floor

By **LARRY FLEISHER** Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Yankees owner Hal Steinbrenner declined to say Monday whether he favors a salary cap proposal in the next collective bargaining agreement but reiterated he might support a salary floor.

"I don't feel like I'm in position right now research-wise, knowledge-wise to answer that question," Steinbrenner said in a video conference from Tampa. "We'll always be among the highest payroll-wise. We always have been. We always will be."

In February, Steinbrenner said he might support a salary cap proposal as long as it contains a provision mandating minimum payrolls. MLB has had a luxury tax in place since 2003 but is the only one of the four major U.S. professional leagues without a salary cap. "Something that would be reasonable enough that it would improve competitive balance significantly in the sport," Steinbrenner said when asked about a possible salary floor. "Many fans already argue it's not been enough. I think we made strides the last 10 years in some of the things we've done but as an industry probably not near where we need to be, at least that's what the majority of the fans believe and there's a number of ways to attack."

At the end of the regular season and not including contract bonuses, the Yankees had a \$301 million payroll and projected luxury tax bill of \$62 million. The Yankees had Major League Baseball's highest payroll for 15 straight years through 2013 but have not led in payroll since then, though they have paid the luxury tax in 21 of 23 seasons for a total of more than \$500 million.

The crosstown Mets signed Juan Soto to a record \$765 million, 15-year contract after his only season with the Yankees and missed the playoffs with a \$340 mil-



FILE - New York Yankees pitcher Max Fried works against the Toronto Blue Jays during the first inning of Game 2 of baseball's American League Division Series in Toronto, Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025.
(Frank Gunn/The Canadian Press via AP, File)

lion payroll and a luxury tax of \$89 million.

The Dodgers won their second straight World Series by beating the Toronto Blue Jays in seven games and ended the regular season with a \$341.5 million payroll and a luxury tax bill of \$168 million and that did not include the \$6.5 million signing bonus for Roki Sasaki on a minor league contract. Six of the 12 postseason teams have payrolls of \$200 million or more, with the Boston Red Sox about \$500,000 short of the mark. Since 1995 when expanded playoffs began, 22 teams won a World Series ranked in the top 10 in Opening Day payroll. Since the Yankees last won a title in 2009, only four teams won a World Series ranked in the top three of payroll: the 2018 Red Sox, and the 2020, 2024 and 2025 Dodgers. Baseball's collective bargaining agreement expires Dec. 1, 2026, and management lockouts have become the norm, which shifts the start of a stoppage to the offseason. During the last negotiations, the sides reached a five-year deal on March 10 after a 99-day lockout, salvaging a 162-game 2022 season that was delayed by a week.

A management salary cap proposal could contain a

salary floor and a guaranteed percentage of revenue to players. Baseball players have endured nine work stoppages, including a 7 1/2-month strike in 1994-95 that fought off a cap proposal. The Yankees retained Trent Grisham after he accepted the \$22 million, one-year qualifying offer. Grisham was among a record four players to accept along with Detroit second baseman Gleyber Torres, Chicago Cubs left-hander Shota Imanaga and Milwaukee right-hander Brandon Woodruff.

The Yankees are expected to make an aggressive bid to retain Cody Bellinger, who was paid \$27.5 million last season. □

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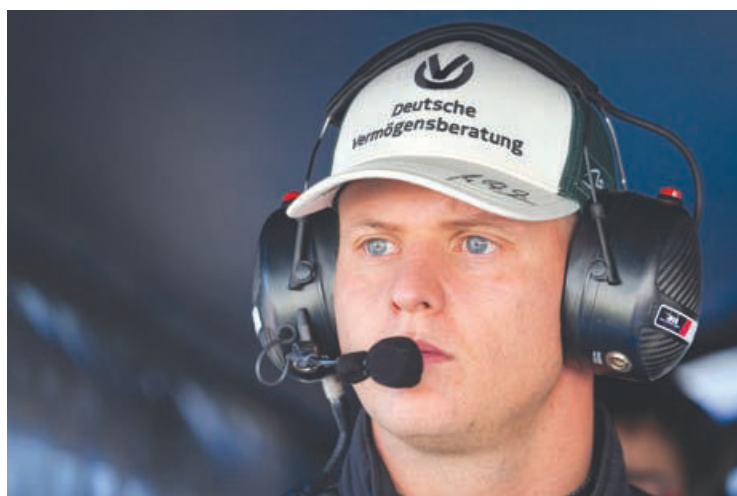
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Rahal Letterman Lanigan adds Mick Schumacher, son of seven-time world champ, to 2026 IndyCar lineup



Race driver Mick Schumacher watches from the pit area as he participates in auto racing testing on the road course at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Oct. 13, 2025, in Indianapolis. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, File)

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Mick Schumacher is coming to America to jump-start his racing career. The son of seven-time world champion Michael Schumacher will compete in the IndyCar Series next season for Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing, team officials

announced Monday, less than two months after he drove for the team at an open test on Indianapolis Motor Speedway's 14-turn, 2.439-mile road course. Mick Schumacher will drive the No. 47 car as a tribute to his father, who suffered a traumatic brain injury in

a skiing accident in 2013, and will have Graham Rahal and 2025 Rookie of the Year Louis Foster as teammates.

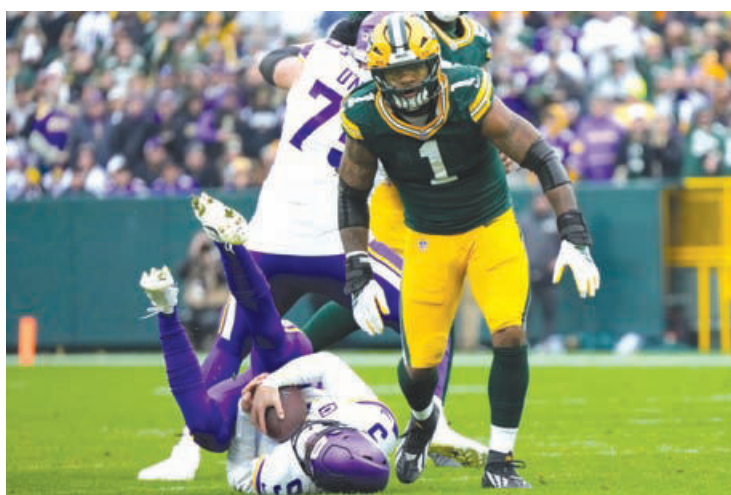
The 26-year-old Schumacher wanted a fresh start after his once-promising Formula 1 career was derailed. He won the Formula 2 championship in 2020, then jumped to F1 in 2021 and made 43 career starts but never finished higher than sixth.

The poor results and expensive crashes cost him his job. In 2023, the Swiss-born driver became a reserve driver for Mercedes-AMG Petronas while also competing for Mercedes' entry in the FIA World Endurance Series each of the past two seasons.

He had three podium finishes in the endurance series. But now he's leaving Europe for something different. □

Vikings put McCarthy in concussion protocol, after struggling QB reports postgame symptoms

By DAVE CAMPBELL AP Pro Football Writer
EAGAN, Minn. (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings have placed quarterback J.J. McCarthy in the concussion protocol, putting his availability for the upcoming game at Seattle in question. McCarthy first reported symptoms during the team's travel home from the 23-6 loss at Green Bay, coach Kevin O'Connell said Monday. The medical staff made the decision to put him in the protocol after returning to Minnesota, O'Connell said. □



Minnesota Vikings quarterback J.J. McCarthy (9) lays on the ground after being sacked by Green Bay Packers defensive end Micah Parsons (1) during the second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Nov. 23, 2025, in Green Bay, Wis. (AP Photo/Morry Gash)

(AP Photo/Morry Gash)



Georgia head coach Kirby Smart reacts during the first half of an NCAA college football game against Charlotte, Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025, in Athens, Ga. (AP Photo/Colin Hubbard)

Georgia lineman Nyier Daniels is dismissed from the team after his arrest following a police chase

By CHARLES ODUM AP Sports Writer

Georgia offensive lineman Nyier Daniels has been dismissed from the team following his weekend arrest on multiple charges resulting from a high-speed police chase in the city of Commerce.

According to the Jackson County, Georgia, jail log, Daniels was booked at 10 a.m. Sunday on three felony charges, including fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer, and 10 misdemeanor charges.

The other felony charges were two counts of cruelty to children because Daniels' two younger siblings were in his BMW. The misdemeanor charges included reckless driving and speeding. According to the police report obtained by The Associated Press, Daniels reached speeds of 100 mph in a 25 mph zone in Commerce and 150 mph when the chase continued on Interstate 85. Georgia coach Kirby Smart said Monday that Daniels was no longer on the team.

"I have not had a chance to talk to him or his family, but obviously he'll no longer be with us," Smart said.

Daniels' mother, Brandi Canada Green, 41, also was arrested after driving another vehicle that became involved in the chase. Green faces a felony charge of fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer, as well as a misdemeanor charge of willful obstruction of law enforcement officers.

According to the incident report, officers gave up the chase when the pursuing officer lost contact with Daniels' vehicle on the interstate. The arrest was made when the officers learned he was a Georgia player and contacted team coaches, who provided assistance, according to the report.

The arresting officer, Capt. Cole Edwards, said in the police report that he asked Daniels why he fled and Daniels responded "he did not want his mother to get a ticket." □